

BOARD MEETINGS
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

BED
(LOCAL)

**Participation at
Board Meetings**

All interested members of the public, including District employees, may address the Board regarding any matter concerning Board business, subject to the rules established by law and Board policy.

Audience participation at Board Regular Voting Meetings of the Board shall be permitted during the portions of the meeting designated as Public Testimony or Public Hearing. Audience participation shall be permitted at Board Information Sessions during the portion of the meeting designated for General Public Comment in accordance with this policy. At all other times during a Board meeting, the audience shall not enter into discussion or debate on matters being considered by the Board, unless requested by the presiding officer.

In addition to or in lieu of speaking, members of the public may provide written comments to the Board by delivering ten copies to the officer on duty at the Regular Voting Meeting.

Time Allotments

The Board shall allot one minute to each speaker during all types of public participation at Board Regular Voting Meetings and Board Information Sessions. The allotted time will be doubled if the speaker requires interpretation services.

Interpretation
Services

A Spanish interpreter provided by the District shall be available during all types of public participation. A request for an interpreter for a language other than Spanish shall be made in accordance with BED(REGULATION).

**Public Testimony
and Public Hearings**

At Regular Voting Meetings, the Board shall schedule time for public testimony on items listed on that meeting's agenda for action or for discussion with possible action, as posted with the public notice of the meeting. General comments that do not pertain to action items listed on the meeting agenda shall not be heard during Regular Voting Meetings and should be reserved for the General Public Comment portion of Board Information Sessions.

The Board may schedule multiple speaking opportunities during a meeting to comply with laws allowing the public to provide input before Board discussion and to enable Trustees to accomplish their work.

Sign-up Procedures

Individuals who wish to speak on posted agenda items under consideration by the Board shall sign up for the Public Testimony and/or Public Hearing portion of the meeting preceding their chosen topic by following the procedures outlined in BED(REGULATION).

**General Public
Comment**

General Public Comments are not required to pertain to an agenda item.

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At Board Information Sessions, the Board may schedule up to 60 speakers who wish to provide comments to the Board. An additional 10 speakers may be placed on a waitlist to provide general public comment if time remains in the allotted 60 minutes for public comments.

General Public Comment shall be recorded over the phone and presented during the portion of the meeting designated for General Public Comment. [See BED(REGULATION)]

Sign-up Procedures Individuals who wish to speak on topics not listed on that meeting's agenda shall sign up for the General Public Comment portion of the meeting by following the procedures outlined in BED(REGULATION).

Board's Response The law prevents the Board from discussing or deliberating on topics not listed on the meeting's agenda. Trustees or the administration may cite specific factual information or existing policy in response to items brought forth by the public during the General Public Comment portion of the meeting.

Process for Public Testimony, Public Hearings, and General Public Comment in the Event of an Emergency In the event of an emergency or public health disaster that makes public testimony or public comment in person a danger to the health and safety of the public, students, District staff, or the Board, the procedures outlined in BED(REGULATION) shall be followed.

Meeting Management When necessary for effective meeting management or to accommodate a large number of individuals wishing to address the Board, the presiding officer may adjust any or all types of public participation procedures. Adjustments may include, but are not limited to, altering the time scheduled during the meeting for public participation, reordering agenda items, deferring public comment on non-agenda items, continuing agenda items to a later meeting, providing expanded opportunity for public participation, or establishing an overall time limit for public comment and adjusting the time allotted to each speaker accordingly. However, no individual shall be given less than one minute to speak, unless the number of speakers would impede the Board's ability to accomplish its work toward meeting the educational needs of students.

Complaints and Concerns The presiding officer or designee may refer an individual seeking resolution to a complaint or concern to the appropriate policy:

- Employee complaints: DGBA
- Student or parent complaints: FNG

- Public complaints: GF

Disruption

The Board of Trustees is the local governmental body charged with serving the educational needs of all school children, so meetings of the Board must be focused on this charge.

All persons in attendance at Board meetings shall display respect for all other persons and refrain from using insulting, profane, threatening, or abusive language. The Board shall not tolerate disruption of the meeting by members of the audience. If, after a warning from the presiding officer, any individual continues to disrupt the meeting by his or her words or actions, the presiding officer may take action to mitigate the disruption, including requesting assistance from law enforcement officials to have the individual removed from the meeting. The presiding officer may recess the meeting.

Signs or Placards

Signs or placards brought to a Board meeting shall be allowed only behind the last row of seats or against the side walls of the room and shall not block the vision of those in attendance or the District's cameras used to televise the meeting.